

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 1 (lines 5-10) on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/117,571 filed on April 4, 2002 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,761,171) which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/994,238 filed on November 26, 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,553,993), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/405,750 filed on September 27, 1999 (Now U.S. Patent No. 6,321,749).

Please replace paragraph 3 beginning on page 7 (lines 25-30) through page 8 (lines 1-4) with the following amended paragraph:

Stylet 26 is preferably of a diameter in the range of 2 to 11 millimeters and is curved to have the same shape as tracheal tube 12 to facilitate smooth, low-friction entry and removal. Because the stylet is made of an immalleable immalleable polymer rod that is inherently semi-rigid and shape retaining, it tends to hold this curvature throughout manipulation of the tube and stylet during airway entry. Withdrawal of the stylet is further facilitated by a removing handle 30 seen best in FIGs. 2-4 which further illustrate the embodiment of FIG. 1. Alternative J-shaped removing handles 36 in FIG. 6 and 38 in FIG. 5 are also contemplated. Clearly, any handle for grasping by at least one finger would be suitable for use in aiding the withdrawal of the stylet from the tube after intubation.